AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus comprising:

one or more compression/decompression units that compress the data for the input job and decompress the compressed data; and

a controller that, when a processing request is issued for processing of the data for a next job by said compression/decompression unit(s) during processing of the data for a current job by said compression/decompression unit(s), obtains the processing wait period between pages of said current job, determines whether or not the data for said next job will undergo compression or decompression based on a comparison between the minimum processing time for said ~~next-job~~ next job data and said processing wait period, and controls the execution of processing of said next job by said compression/decompression unit(s) between pages of said current job in accordance with this determination,

wherein the processing of said next job is executed on a page unit basis, a band unit basis, or a block unit basis, depending on the minimum processing time for said next job.

2.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when said processing wait period is longer than said minimum processing

time, said controller permits said compression/decompression unit(s) to process said

next job between pages of said current job.

3.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein said job includes a copy job in which image data for an original document

ready by an original document reader is printed out or a print job in which image data

received from an external terminal is printed out.

4.   (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus comprising:

one or more compression/decompression unit(s) that compress the data for

the input job and decompress the compressed data; and

a controller that, when a processing request is issued for processing of the

data for a next job by said compression/decompression unit(s) during processing of

the data for a current job by said compression/decompression unit(s), identifies an

attribute of said next job, determines whether or not the data for said next job will

undergo compression or decompression based on said identified ~~next-job~~ <u>next job</u>

attribute, and controls the execution of processing of said next job by said

compression/decompression unit(s) between pages of said current job in accordance

with this determination<u>,</u>

<u>wherein the processing of said next job is executed on a page unit basis, a</u>

<u>band unit basis, or a block unit basis, depending on the identified next-job attribute</u>.

5.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said next-job attribute consists of whether the data processing for the next job is to take place on a page unit, band unit or block unit basis.

6.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said next-job attribute consists of the type of the next job.

7.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said next-job attribute consists of the input source for the next job.

8.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said next-job attribute consists of whether the data is binary data or multi-value data.

9.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said next-job attribute consists of whether the data is monochrome data or color data.

10.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said job includes a copy job in which image data for an original document ready by an original document reader is printed out or a print job in which image data received from an external terminal is printed out.

11.   (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus comprising:

one or more compression/decompression unit(s) that compress the data for the input job and decompress the compressed data; and

a controller that, when a processing request is issued for processing of the data for a next job by said compression/decompression unit(s) during processing of the data for a current job by said compression/decompression unit(s), obtains the processing wait period between pages of said current job, identifies an attribute of said next job, and determines whether or not the data for said next job will undergo compression or decompression based on a comparison between the minimum processing time for said next-job data and said processing wait period, as well as on said identified ~~next-job~~ <u>next job</u> attribute, and controls the execution of processing of said next job by said compression/decompression unit(s) between pages of said current job in accordance with this determination<u>,</u>

<u>wherein the processing of said next job is executed on a page unit basis, a band unit basis, or a block unit basis, depending on the minimum processing time for said next job and the identified next job attribute</u>.

12.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said next-job attribute consists of whether the data for the next job is to take place on a page unit, band unit or block unit basis.

13.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said next-job attribute consists of the type of the next job.

14.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said next-job attribute consists of the input source for the next job.

15.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said next-job attribute consists of whether the data is binary data or multi-value data.

16.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said next-job attribute consists of whether the data is monochrome data or color data.

17.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein when said processing wait period is longer than said minimum processing time, said controller permits said compression/decompression unit(s) to process said next job between pages of said current job.

18.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said controller compares said next-job data minimum processing time and said processing wait period after the next-job attribute is identified.

19.   (Original) The data processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said job includes a copy job in which image data for an original document read by an original document reader is printed out or a print job in which image data received from an external terminal is printed out.